



# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 21 November 2003

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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[www.whitehouse.gov/homeland](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)

## Daily Overview

- The Canadian Press reports the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration says Canadian drug traffickers are laundering illicit cash through casinos and clandestinely shipping shady money to the Caribbean and South America. (See item [7](#))
- The U.S. Treasury designates Burma and two Burmese banks to be of "Primary Money Laundering Concern" and announces proposed countermeasures. (See item [8](#))
- The Associated Press reports the Department of Homeland Security has announced new rules to identify cargo shipped into and out of the country using electronic manifests. (See item [11](#))
- Reuters reports a Food and Drug Administration official says the U.S. has halted imports of Mexican green onions suspected of causing an outbreak of hepatitis A that has sickened more than 500 people in Pennsylvania. (See item [16](#))

### DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *November 20, Associated Press* — Man admits damaging high-voltage power sites. A Washington man who admitted to tampering with more than 20 high-voltage transmission towers in four Western states said Wednesday, November 19, he was trying

**to point out the power system's vulnerabilities.** Michael Devlyn Poulin of Spokane pleaded guilty to two counts of damaging an energy facility as part of a plea agreement with federal prosecutors. **Poulin also admitted to damaging or attempting to damage towers in California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. But in an agreement reached with prosecutors before U.S. District Judge William Shubb, he offered guilty pleas to only two incidents — one near Anderson, CA, and one near Klamath Falls, OR.** In return for the pleas prosecutors recommended Poulin serve 27 months in federal prison and will not charge him in Idaho or Washington. He also faces a possible fine of \$500,000. In court yesterday Shubb asked Poulin why he had targeted the towers. "I intended to loosen the bolts and by doing so illustrate the vulnerabilities of these towers," Poulin told the judge. A federal warrant was issued for Poulin's arrest last month after he was seen loosening and removing bolts from the legs of the tower near Anderson on October 20.

Source: [http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2001796373\\_transmission20m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2001796373_transmission20m.html)

2. *November 20, Reuters* — **Oil prices rise as blasts feed security fears. Oil prices again rose toward recent peaks on Thursday, November 20, after two deadly explosions in Istanbul, Turkey, fueled concern about the impact of global political insecurity on oil supplies.** The attacks killed at least 25 and injured 390, Turkish television said. A caller to Turkey's semi-official Anatolian news agency claimed responsibility in the name of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda group, which Washington blames for September 11 U.S. attacks. **While Turkey produces little oil, traders are concerned about a tide of violence that has included bomb blasts in big OPEC oil producers Saudi Arabia and Iraq this month.** OPEC, which controls half the world's oil exports, meets on December 4 to review output policy and leading cartel officials have said that oil prices were not high enough to justify the cartel raising production. "The market is well served by the amount of oil it now has," OPEC Secretary-General Alvaro Silva said in Geneva on Wednesday, November 19. "The market elements are normal, so it is fear, uncertainty out in the world that is beyond our control," he said. Analysts say an OPEC cutback at current prices would upset consuming nations, which fear the economic impact of rising energy costs.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A64661-2003Nov\\_20.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A64661-2003Nov_20.html)

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## **Chemical Sector**

3. *November 20, The Telegraph (Nashua, NH)* — **Officials pick up on spill.** Merrimack, NH, Fire Marshal Mike Currier and Assistant Fire Chief Dave Parenti were on their way to lunch shortly after noon Wednesday when they noticed a tanker truck stopped at a light. As the truck shifted gears to start up the hill, the fire officials noticed some liquid spray from the top. "At that point, we did the roll-down-the-window routine and smelled the chlorine," Currier said. **The pair pulled over the truck and called for assistance. Fire officials determined the truck had been spilling sodium hypochloride, a chemical used for wastewater treatment. The truck was on its way from Jones Chemical Inc., where it had filled up, to the wastewater plant in Manchester.** Firefighters sprayed down the side of the road where some of the chemical had spilled, as well as the top of the truck, where it had leaked from a latch in the rear of the truck just above the company's logo — Safe Handling Inc., of Auburn, ME. **Currier estimated about 20 gallons of the liquid had spilled. The spill didn't need to be reported to**

environmental authorities, he said, because federal Environmental Protection Agency standards require a report to be filed only if 100 gallons or more are spilled. The danger would be if a pedestrian walking along the road had been sprayed by the chemical, which is an irritant.

Source: <http://nashuatelegraph.com/Main.asp?SectionID=25&SubSectionID=354&ArticleID=93936>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

4. *November 19, Navy NewsStand* — **High Speed Vessel SWIFT joins Navy starting rotation. High Speed Vessel (HSV) 2 SWIFT is the evolutionary offspring of HSV X1 Joint Venture, a two-year consortium conducted by the Army, Marine Corps and Navy. The newest model was accepted from Australian builders in July. The ship can go more than 45 knots per hour and operate in only 12 feet of water, and the ship's company is a only 40 Sailors. SWIFT is equipped with automatic fire suppression systems in every space. The watch team can remotely activate firefighting agents and monitor conditions in engineering spaces from the cockpit-like bridge. Three people can effectively man the bridge underway. A cavernous 28,000-square-foot mission deck and vehicle ramp, a 4,000-square-foot flight deck, a boat crane, and turn-on-a-dime maneuverability provide SWIFT with the resources to assume countless mission configurations, including maritime interdiction, mine warfare, littoral access, homeland security, expeditious troop and equipment transport and a host of other possibilities.**

Source: [http://www.news.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story\\_id=10482](http://www.news.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=10482)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

5. *November 20, Financial Times (UK)* — **Increase in money laundering forecast. About 46 per cent of UK financial services companies say that money laundering is the top concern in financial crime, according to a survey. The research found that nearly one-third of companies expect money laundering to increase over the next two years, while one-quarter expected fraudulent claims to increase in the same period. Concern about crime has made 63 per cent of the companies, which included banks and insurers, put fighting crime very high up the agenda, according to the study by Coleman-Parkes Research on behalf of LogicaCMG. The report also found that more than half of the 100 companies questioned believed that middle-class crime – such as identity fraud and fraudulent claims – is increasing and is set to be an important issue over the next few years.**

Source: <http://news.ft.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=FT.com/StoryFT/FullStory&c=StoryFT&cid=1069132012988>

6. *November 19, Associated Press* — **U.S. to sharpen focus on terror funding. The Bush administration will sharpen its focus on alternative ways terrorists may raise or move money, such as the trafficking of drugs, gold and diamonds, diverting charitable**

contributions and exploiting the Internet. Building on current efforts in these areas is one of the goals contained in the administration's 2003 anti-money laundering strategy, said an annual report released by the Department of Treasury on Tuesday, November 18.

Alternative methods to raise or move money have taken on more importance as the United States and other countries have taken steps to make it harder for terrorist financiers to use traditional banking systems. The report also suggested that law enforcement focus on "high-value money laundering targets, including those with ties to major narcotics trafficking operations." In the anti-money laundering report, other challenges mentioned include preventing terrorists from siphoning money from charities and using the Internet to raise funds and move money. Report: <http://www.treas.gov/press/releases/js1010.htm>  
Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A62618-2003Nov\\_19.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A62618-2003Nov_19.html)

7. *November 19, Canadian Press* — **Canadian traffickers laundering money through casinos says DEA. Canadian drug traffickers are laundering illicit cash through casinos and clandestinely shipping shady money to the Caribbean and South America, says a U.S. intelligence report. Drug proceeds are also being moved quietly into Canada and deposited in banks, adds the assessment by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA),** which is leading the U.S. government's fight against illegal substances. There is growing concern among police and security officials about the persistent efforts of drug syndicates, terrorists and other criminals to hide the source of ill-gotten money by making large purchases or conducting transactions with legitimate institutions. **The August DEA report, Money Laundering in Canada, says Canadian drug traffickers intent on using casinos to launder their proceeds begin by purchasing chips or opening an account at the gambling establishment.** The trafficker gambles, but is careful to lose only a relatively small sum of money, the report notes. "We are getting suspicious transaction reports in from casinos, and those are of great interest," said Peter Lamey, a spokesperson for the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Center of Canada. Report: <http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/pubs/intel/03034/03034.html>  
Source: <http://www.canada.com/news/national/story.html?id=2B2BD7D9-CFC5-4474-B632-4A1443D9DA8E>
8. *November 19, U.S. Treasury* — **Department of Treasury designates Burma and two Burmese banks to be of "Primary Money Laundering Concern" and announces proposed countermeasures. Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snow announced on Wednesday, November 19, the designation of Burma and two Burmese banks to be of "primary money laundering concern" under Section 311 of the USA PATRIOT Act.** In conjunction with this designation, Treasury announced a notice of proposed rulemaking that would require U.S. financial institutions to terminate correspondent accounts involving Burmese financial institutions, subject to certain specified exemptions. Correspondent accounts involving the two specific banks that have been designated, Myanmar Mayflower Bank and Asia Wealth Bank, would have to be terminated without exception. The designation of Burma is the result of its failure to remedy serious deficiencies in its anti-money laundering system, and is consistent with the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) call on November 3, 2003, for its members to take anti-money laundering countermeasures against Burma. **The designation of these two banks represents the first designation by the Secretary of specific foreign financial institutions found to be of "primary money laundering concern."** These two institutions have been linked to narcotics trafficking organizations in Southeast Asia.

Source: <http://www.treas.gov/press/releases/js1014.htm>

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## **Transportation Sector**

9. *November 20, Wichita Business Journal (KN)* — **Transportation program expected to create Kansas jobs.** A comprehensive transportation bill will create 47,500 jobs in Kansas, says Congressman Jerry Moran. **The bill, which authorizes funding for federal highways, public transportation programs and safety initiatives for the next six years, would spend more than \$2.7 billion in transportation programs in the state, he says.** Included in the reauthorization bill are funding initiatives to improve the overall safety of roads and the interstate system, in addition to upgrading bridges and rail lines. It is estimated the bill will create 1.7 million jobs nationwide in the transportation sector. **Kansas has the fourth largest number of public roads in the nation, totaling more than 134,500 miles, and ranks third among all states in the number of bridges.**

Source: <http://wichita.bizjournals.com/wichita/stories/2003/11/17/day28.html>

10. *November 20, Associated Press* — **Storm disrupts travel.** A Pacific Northwest cold front that dumped rain and snow stopped passenger train service and forced Interstate 90 to close for a time. **Concern about mudslides along rail tracks prompted Amtrak to decide to bus passengers between Seattle and Everett, WA, on Wednesday and Thursday,** Seattle station agent Harry Patterson said. **Travelers on Amtrak's Empire Builder to Chicago were affected. Passengers on trains linking Seattle and Bellingham and Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia, were bused the entire way,** he said. Freight train traffic was not affected, said Gus Melonas, a spokesman for Burlington Northern Santa Fe, which owns the tracks. Flood warnings were in effect for the Stillaguamish, Skokomish, Snohomish, Skagit, Nooksack and Snoqualmie rivers, whose high waters were affecting mostly rural areas and low-lying roads. Rains forced the closure of numerous roads in northwest Washington's Whatcom County, said Don Boyd of Whatcom County's Division of Emergency Management.

Source: <http://www.kirotv.com/weather/2651497/detail.html>

11. *November 20, Associated Press* — **Agency announces new cargo ID rules.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced new rules Thursday to better identify cargo shipped into and out of the country. **Electronic manifests identifying freight shipped by truck, rail, plane and ship must be sent to Customs and Border Protection officials before the goods reach the border. Customs now gets some advance information on cargo carried by plane, rail and truck. The information, though, is provided voluntarily and isn't always complete. Cargo declarations no longer will be allowed to arrive on paper with a shipment.** Officials said the electronic information will be compared with law enforcement and commercial databases to target potentially dangerous shipments that need to be inspected. Congress ordered the changes last year because of fears that terrorists could smuggle chemical, biological or nuclear weapons into the country. Customs officials say they can identify high-risk cargo by reviewing shipment data against the databases and in light of strategic intelligence. Only a tiny percentage of air, rail and truck cargo is currently inspected,

Source: <http://www.macon.com/mld/macon/news/7311293.htm>



12. *November 19, Department of Transportation* — **Roadway safety awards recognize highway programs in 13 states.** Federal Highway Administrator Mary E. Peters Wednesday named 13 roadway safety projects in 13 states that received National Highway Safety Awards from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Roadway Safety Foundation (RSF). The awards recognized initiatives that save lives by improving roadway design, operations and overall planning. Highway programs in Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, New York, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Washington received awards. A regional traffic system in Kentucky and Indiana also received an award. **“Safety is one of the Bush administration’s highest transportation priorities, and these awards underscore our commitment to safety,” Peters said. “The winning projects are outstanding examples of the efforts of state and local transportation officials to improve highway safety.”** The award winners included six state transportation departments, a regional transportation consortium, two counties, two cities and a state police agency.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/fhwa3303.htm>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture Sector**

13. *November 20, Mass High Tech* — **Salmonella vaccine.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has given license approval to a vaccine, known as MeganEgg, for use in breeding and laying hens to prevent Salmonella infection. MeganEgg is a double gene–modified vaccine for use in commercial breeders and egg–layers to protect against infection from Salmonella bacteria that is known to contaminate eggs. Hens generally receive three vaccinations during the growing period and are protected throughout laying without further vaccination. The primary objective of the vaccine is elimination or reduction of Salmonella enteritidis levels in chickens, principally found in eggs, the birds, and their poultry house. The vaccine will be distributed exclusively in North America.

Source: [http://www.masshightech.com/displayarticledetail.asp?Art\\_ID=64104](http://www.masshightech.com/displayarticledetail.asp?Art_ID=64104)

14. *November 19, Associated Press* — **Experts: Food system vulnerable to attack.** A simple handkerchief wielded by a resourceful terrorist could cause billions of dollars of damage to America's food system and untold terror in the nation's kitchens, senators were told Wednesday. **"We have become a nation concerned about receiving anthrax in our mailboxes," said Tom McGinn of North Carolina Department of Agriculture. "Imagine what it would be like to be a nation concerned about opening our refrigerators and anthrax being in our refrigerators as well."** A terrorist could put germs for foot and mouth disease on a handkerchief, enter the country and visit any of the state fairs that show livestock, officials said. "If you exposed livestock before they were being shipped back to the farm from a state fair, you would have dispersed the disease across the state," said Sen. Richard Durbin, D–IL. **Such an attack would have a devastating effect on the American economy, with food production**

accounting for about 10 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product. In addition to financial stress, an agricultural attack with a disease that can jump from animals to people could cause panic. Since 1912, only 12 documented cases exist of bioterrorism with livestock or contaminated produce and only two can be considered terrorism.

Source: [http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/content/news/ap/ap\\_story.html/Washington/AP.V7253.AP-Food-Terrorism.html](http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/content/news/ap/ap_story.html/Washington/AP.V7253.AP-Food-Terrorism.html)

15. *November 19, Oster Dow Jones Commodity News* — **OIE will not change BSE guidelines until May. The World Organization for Animal Health, known as OIE, will not be changing its bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) guidelines until May 2004, despite a request by the U.S., Canada, and Mexico for it to do so by the end of this year, an OIE official said. David Wilson, head of the OIE's international trade department, said it would be "impossible" to meet the request for new guidelines on BSE until May at the earliest. In September, the U.S. Canada, and Mexico requested in a joint letter to OIE Director General Bernard Vallat that the international organization develop new "practical guidelines for risk mitigation measures supported by science before the end of this year." Wilson said the rigid system in place for making such changes will not allow that. Wilson said the OIE's International Animal Health Code Commission will meet in December to form proposals, based on submissions filed in the September meeting, to change the guidelines and then distribute those proposals to member countries for possible adoption in the group's annual May meeting. The U.S. has already submitted a proposal for change in OIE guidelines, he said, and it will be considered along with others in December by the International Animal Health Code Commission.**

Source: [http://www.agprofessional.com/show\\_story.php?id=22364](http://www.agprofessional.com/show_story.php?id=22364)

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## **Food Sector**

16. *November 20, Reuters* — **U.S. bars Mexican onions due to hepatitis A outbreak. The United States has halted imports of Mexican green onions suspected of causing an outbreak of hepatitis A that has sickened more than 500 people in Pennsylvania, a Food and Drug Administration official told Reuters on Wednesday. FDA Deputy Commissioner Lester Crawford said the U.S. Centers for Disease Control on Friday will release an update on the outbreak, including the food source that has caused at least three deaths and where it originated. Health officials believe Mexican green onions served at a Chi-Chi's restaurant were the source of the Pennsylvania outbreak. Recent cases of the liver disease in Tennessee, North Carolina and Georgia have also been linked to scallions. "We are actually detaining the (green onions) at the border at the present time," Crawford said after testifying on an unrelated issue at the House Governmental Affairs committee. "This is the best bet of the source, but has not yet been finally confirmed." Crawford said there were no indications the hepatitis A outbreak was intentional. Hepatitis A is usually mild but can cause fever, exhaustion, vomiting, abdominal pain and in rare cases death. As of Tuesday, 520 cases of the illness had been confirmed in Pennsylvania, the state health department said on its Web site.**

Source: [http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Living/reuters20031119\\_647.html](http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Living/reuters20031119_647.html)

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## Water Sector

17. *November 19, Associated Press* — **Colorado River project. A \$500,000 study shows the "Big Straw" water project to move Colorado River water from the Western Slope to thirsty eastern Colorado cities and towns could cost up to \$15 billion. It also would take 27 years to build.** The report is scheduled to be reviewed by the Colorado Water Conservation Board at a meeting on Thursday. There are five possible routes for the project and three locations from which Colorado River water could be siphoned for the state's growing and thirsty Front Range and eastern plains cities and towns. The project would cost between \$3.8 billion and \$15 billion, depending on its route and other factors, according to the study. The report suggests hydroelectric power could help offset the sticker shock. **With much of the West still in a drought, Colorado is trying to find ways to direct its water to areas where consumers want it. The proposed pipeline would pump billions of gallons from near the Utah border 200 miles east to the Eagle River basin to be used on farms, and in industries and homes.**

Source: <http://www.casperstartribune.net/articles/2003/11/19/news/wyoming/1af3d3b4f8b8479987256de20072b2b1.txt>

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## Public Health Sector

18. *November 20, American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology* — **Test may predict adverse reaction to smallpox vaccine.** The ability to predict which individuals would respond adversely to smallpox vaccination may be possible according to data presented by Malka Rais at the Annual Meeting of American College of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology (ACAAI). **Rais captured a biochemical profile of ten recipients of the smallpox vaccine in an effort to develop a predictive marker for side effect susceptibility.** Blood specimens were taken from 10 subjects prior to their receiving the smallpox vaccine and Rais measured four cytokines after challenging the serums with tetanus and diphtheria. The vaccination sites were also watched and measured. The size and duration of the vaccination lesion corresponded to the blood responses to tetanus and diphtheria. Interferon-gamma and interleukin-2 levels increased while interleukin-10 decreased. **The results support the rationale for use of a simple blood assay to observe these cytokines and predict whether individuals will launch an adequate response to the vaccine. If the results can be reproduced in a larger cohort study, the method would be an inexpensive and easy to perform clinic test that could avert disaster for some individuals.**

Source: <http://www.newswise.com/articles/view/502052/>

19. *November 19, Reuters* — **Vaccines may be linked to soldier's death. Medical experts have found that the April death of a U.S. Army combat medic may have been caused by a combination of vaccinations required by the Pentagon, officials said on Wednesday. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, said in a statement that in light of the findings he has asked an advisory committee to evaluate the Pentagon's practice of giving multiple vaccinations at once. Two independent panels of**



medical experts found that vaccinations may have triggered an illness that killed Spc. Rachel Lacy who had been given several vaccinations when she was mobilized for active duty, the Defense Department said. At Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, Lacy was given on March 2 five vaccinations to protect against anthrax, smallpox, hepatitis B, typhoid, measles, mumps and rubella. She then developed pulmonary, neurological and other symptoms and died on April 4 due to a severe lung inflammation caused by the autoimmune disease lupus, the Pentagon said. **The expert panels were unable to single out a specific vaccination as the possible culprit in Lacy's death because several were administered at once,** the Pentagon said.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N19303301.htm>

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## **Government Sector**

20. *November 20, Government Computer Week* — **DHS to fund state, local pilots.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials are seeking proposals from state and local governments for small, innovative collaboration pilot projects, using \$12 million approved by Congress as part of the department's fiscal 2004 budget. **The projects basically would be demonstrations of how leading-edge commercial technology can foster integration and collaboration between the many parts of government that work together for homeland security, said Steve Cooper, chief information officer at DHS.** Department officials want to fund 12 to 24 projects, depending on "how much we can do before the money runs out," Cooper said today at a breakfast sponsored by Input in Arlington, VA. DHS officials have been laying the groundwork for these regional pilots for more than a year, but now that they have approval from Congress, the money will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis, Cooper said. Source: <http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2003/1117/web-dhs-11-20-03.a.sp>

21. *November 20, Government Executive Magazine* — **House panel to set performance goals for Homeland Security.** Republican leaders of the House Select Committee on Homeland Security said Wednesday they will set performance standards for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), but will seek to avoid the recent mistake of creating arbitrary or unrealistic goals. **The committee chairman and a group of subcommittee heads said they will meet with DHS managers during the next two months to develop performance measures to gauge the success of homeland security programs and policies as the department moves into its second year of existence.** The measures will affect everything from the management and personnel of the department to which programs get funded, the lawmakers said. Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/1103/111903c1.htm>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

22. *November 20, Associated Press* — **New machine can detect drugs like dogs.** A new invention can sniff like a dog, find drugs like a dog and help police catch criminals like a dog. But can the so-called "Dog on a Chip" replace the police officer's best friend? **Georgia Tech researchers have developed a machine that can instantly sniff out cocaine and other illegal drugs**

**without the hassle of feeding, training and interpreting a police dog.** "This works the same way as the dogs," said Bill Hunt, the electrical engineering professor heading the project. "They're picking up on the vapors coming off the cocaine." **From a few feet away, the device can "smell" microscopic amounts of a particular substance – as little as one–trillionth of a gram. So far it's only programmed to detect cocaine. But Hunt says it could be developed to sniff out other drugs, anthrax, bombs, chemical agents and even cancerous cells.** The machine is a rectangular plastic box slightly smaller than a phone book attached to a cube with a chip inside it that detects substances. Two antenna–like tubes protrude from the cube -- one sucks in air, the other spits it out. Electronic nose technologies have been around since the 1980s, but none has been as sensitive as a dog's nose. And of course, chips lack a certain animated quality. "Dogs are more fun," said Dan Gordon, a private investigator and owner of Homeland Security Dogs in Palm Springs, CA, "You can throw a Frisbee with them."  
Source: [http://www.heraldtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2003\\_1120/APF/311200759](http://www.heraldtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2003_1120/APF/311200759)

23. *November 20, Toledo Blade (OH)* — **Fire departments get federal grants.** Two northwest Ohio fire departments were among 193 in the United States last week to receive money through the 2003 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program. The Rossford Fire Department was awarded \$51,207 and the Woodville Township Fire Department was given \$127,868. **The grants will ultimately total approximately 7,000 awards nationwide worth \$750 million in direct assistance to firefighters.** Twelve other communities in Ohio also received money through the grant program. **Since June, over 5,600 fire departments nationwide have received nearly \$396 million to support their roles as first responders.** The U.S. Fire Administration, a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, administers the grant program.  
Source: <http://www.toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20031120/NEWS18/31120002>

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## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

24. *November 20, Federal Computer Week* — **Homeland Security network solicitation planned.** **Officials at the Department of Homeland Security plan to release the department's solicitation for an enterprise data network by the end of the year.** The Homeland Security Data Network (HSDN) will handle all data for the department. Given the many missions within the department—including some that are not related to homeland security—there will be subdomains, but the aim is to have everyone working on the same infrastructure as quickly as possible, Steve Cooper, chief information officer at the department, said Thursday, November 20. The final solicitation will likely go out under the General Services Administration's Millennia governmentwide acquisition contract, Cooper said. **Officials hope to rely on commercial companies to develop and implement the network. DHS officials will require the network to be in place and functioning by December 2004,** Cooper said.  
Source: <http://fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/1117/web-dhsnet-11-20-03.asp>

25. *November 19, Korean Times* — **Large Internet hacking ring uncovered in South Korea.** The Korean National Police Agency announced Wednesday, November 19, that they have exposed a group of professional hackers with more than 4,400 members. **The police filed arrest warrants for two members of the group, who call themselves Wowhackers, while booking**

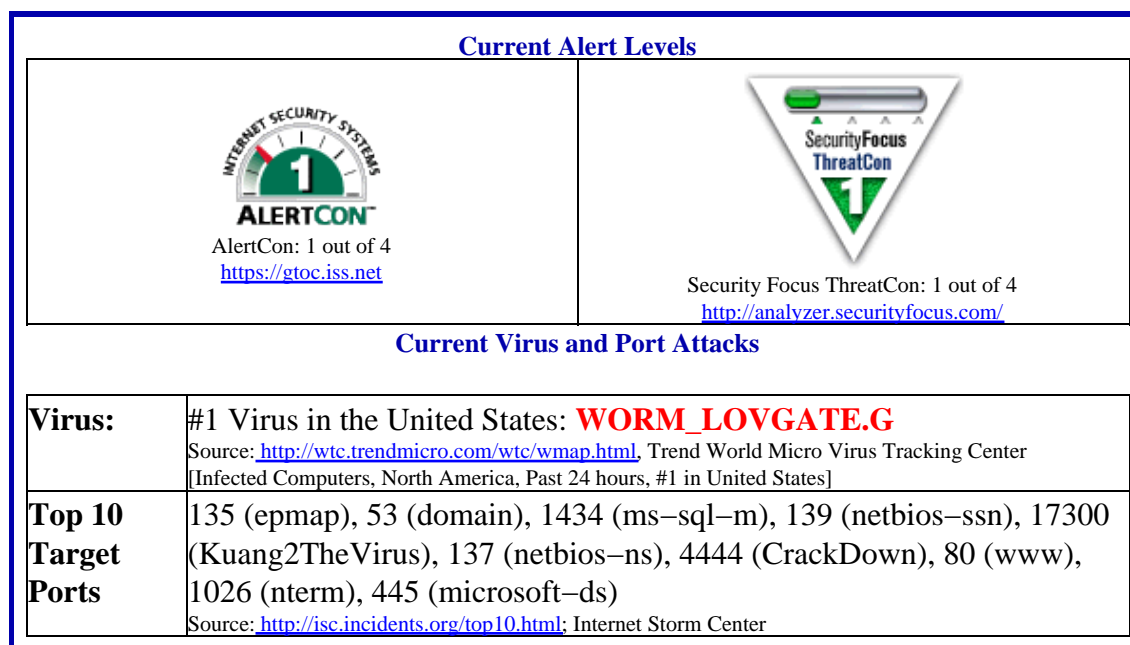
**11 others on suspicions of illegal hacking.** The leader of the group, identified by his surname Hong, is also suspected of having deleted all the stored files and data of their past work from the group's Internet server while he was under police investigation. The group was allegedly organized in May 2000 and attracted a large membership by teaching their members the latest hacking skills. **Since their inception, the group has broken into Internet servers of more than 90 government offices and private firms** to steal the personal information of more than 2.6 million people, which they then posted on their Website. **The group is also suspected of breaking into the National Tax Service's Internet server.**

Source: <http://www.securitynewsportal.com/cgi-bin/cgi-script/csNews/csNews.cgi?database=JanDD.db&command=viewone&id=17>

- 26. November 18, CNET News.com — Bush pushes for cybercrime treaty.** President Bush has asked the U.S. Senate to ratify the first international cybercrime treaty. Even though the United States is a nonvoting member of the Council of Europe, it has pressed hard for the cybercrime treaty as a way to establish international criminal standards related to copyright infringement, online fraud, child pornography and network intrusions. So far, according to the Council of Europe, only three countries—Albania, Croatia and Estonia—have ratified the treaty. **The treaty requires each participating nation to ban the distribution of software that is designed for the "purpose of committing" certain computer crimes, requires Internet providers to ensure "expeditious preservation of traffic data" upon request, and permits real-time wiretapping of Internet service providers.** It also covers extradition for computer crimes and permits police to request that their counterparts in other countries cooperate in conducting electronic surveillance. **Bush said the treaty will "help deny 'safe havens' to criminals, including terrorists, who can cause damage to U.S. interests from abroad, using computer systems."**

Source: [http://news.com.com/2100-1028\\_3-5108854.html?tag=nefd\\_top](http://news.com.com/2100-1028_3-5108854.html?tag=nefd_top)

### Internet Alert Dashboard



## **General Sector**

27. *November 20, New York Times* — **Blasts strike two British buildings in Turkey. Explosions blasted the British consulate and the international bank HSBC in Istanbul Thursday, November 20. It is thought that 27 people were killed and more than 450 were wounded.** The attack came less than a week after suicide bomb blasts at two Jewish synagogues in the city, in which 25 people were killed, including the bombers. **Thursday's attack appeared to be timed with the visit to Britain by U.S. President George Bush.** Prime Minister Tony Blair called it a "terrorist outrage." In London, British foreign minister Jack Straw said "at this stage we can't say for certain who is responsible, but...it has all the hallmarks of international terrorism practiced by al Qaeda and associated organizations." On Wednesday, Turkish authorities named two Turkish citizens as the suicide bombers who carried out the attacks on the synagogues last Saturday.  
Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/11/20/international/20CND-TURKEY.html?hp>

28. *November 20, Associated Press* — **Bad radar prompts White House evacuation. Air Force fighter jets were scrambled and the White House was briefly evacuated on Thursday after birds or possibly disturbances in the atmosphere tripped radar that keeps watch on restricted air space around the complex.** "It's a false radar target," said William Shumann, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman. "When the NORAD fighters got to the location of the alleged violation, they found nothing." Shumann said flocks of birds or atmospheric disturbances might have caused the false radar reading, which was initially thought to be a plane flying within five miles of restricted airspace around the White House. An evacuation begun at about 9:20 a.m. EST was called off within 20 minutes, said Secret Service spokesman John Gill. "It was deemed unnecessary when the airspace violation was determined to be a radar anomaly," he said.  
Source: [http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Politics/ap20031120\\_754.html](http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Politics/ap20031120_754.html)

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